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# **The Theotokos in Orthodox Theology and Devotion**

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology

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The Illuminated Homilies  
*of*  
Iakovos Kokkinobaphos



The 12<sup>th</sup>-century writer, Iakovos (i.e., James) Kokkinobaphos (an unidentified monastery), wrote six homilies on the early life of the Mother of God, from her Conception to the Visitation with Elizabeth. They are preserved in two deluxe manuscripts, *Vaticanus graecus* 1162, and *Parisinus graecus* 1208, both profusely illustrated, the former by the leading atelier in Constantinople. The text of these homilies remains unedited and untranslated (cf. the partial editions in *PG* 127:543-700).

*Vaticanus graecus* 1162




Frontispiece,  
The Ascension



μηρ· σίαρ· τήν· παροι· βί· αρκα· τε· δικά· δ· η· η· :-



# Fall and Exile of Adam and Eve


 ωμερῶς ἐκείνησ καὶ ἄροσι σου μετὰ  
 ἡ' τὸς τὴν ἄ' τὴν σὺν ἑ' τὸν θ' α'  
 τὴν φ' ὀρῶν ἐν τοῖς ἐμοῖς ἐπὶ φη' κεράσι  
 ὡ φθομερῶς καὶ μετὰ τοῦ σὺν α' ὀρῶν  
 τὴν ὀ' ἑθ' ὀρῶν σὺν α' ὀρῶν σὺν α' ὀρῶν



ποὺς τὸν σὸν ἄνευ συλῆ-θῃς φύλαμα.



Adam and Eve

The Sacrifices of  
Cain and Abel

The Murder of  
Abel



παράδεισε θεῖς βασιλεὺς ἅγιος καὶ  
ποθεὶν ἄπολαυστος. ἄλλοι τὸν θε-  
οῦ σωτηρίαν σάδε. σμικρὸν θνητὸν  
ἄνθρωπον ἄναστακτὸν. ὅτι τὸν σὸν



✠ τὸ εἶδος οὐρανὸς · ἀλλήλων ἐκεί · καὶ ἡ βασιλεία.



The Burning Bush



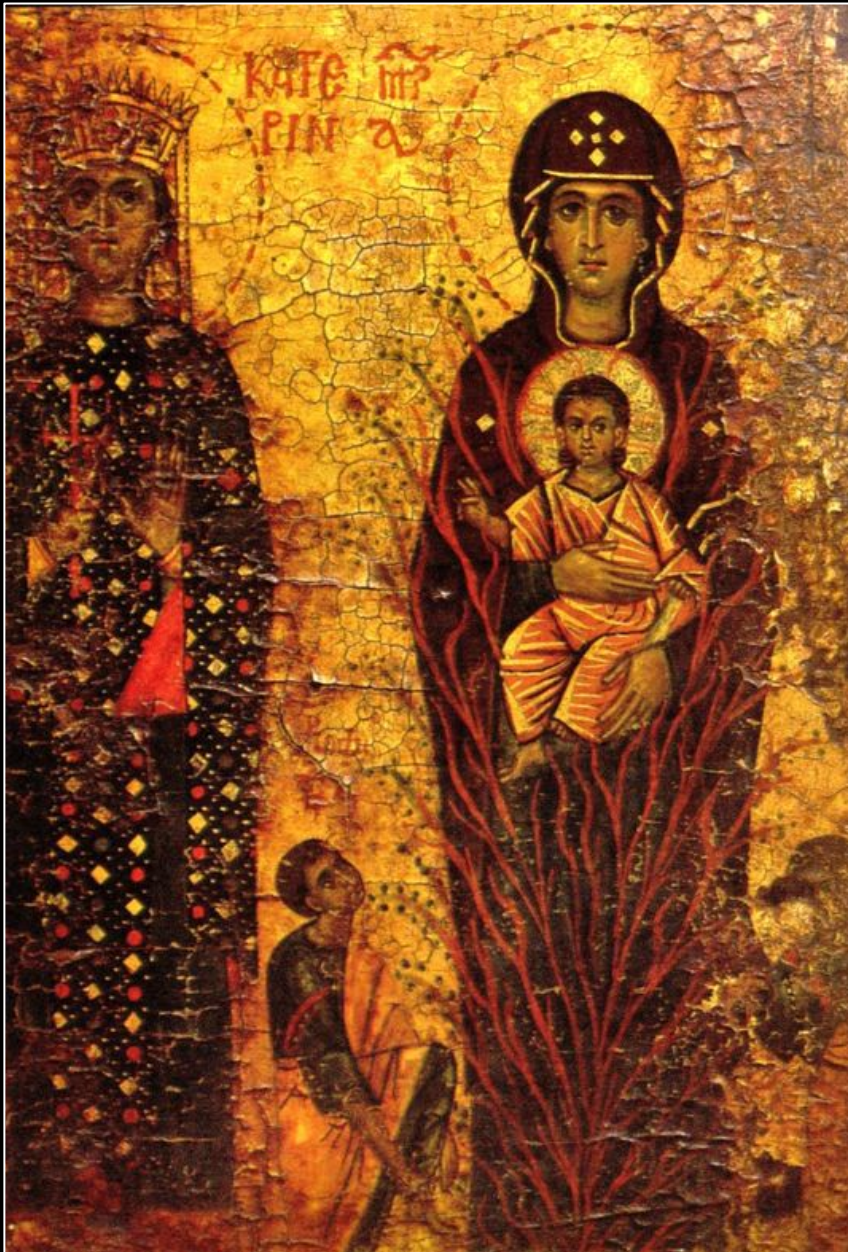


Late 13<sup>th</sup> c., Church of the Perivleptos, Ohrid









13<sup>th</sup> c. St Katherine and  
the Mother of God (Sinai)

✠ ὁ πᾶσι δὲ αἰὼν ἐρωακό τοι τὸν καὶ ἐπὶ θρόνῳ· ὁ πᾶσι δὲ τοι τὸν  
 πρὸ ἑνὸς τῆς λαοῦ διὰ τῶν ἐραφίῶν· ἔδωκε δὲ τὸν θεὸν ἡμῶν ὁρᾶν·

το τοῦ ἐφ' ἑαυτοῦ αἰτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἰσοῦ  
 τῶν τοῦ τῶν χιλιῶν σου·



**Κ**αὶ ἀφ' ἐλπίδας ἀνομιῶν σου καὶ τὰς αὐ  
 τῶν ῥημάτων σου περικαθαρίει· τίμιον χάρι  
 οὐ γὰρ ἐν τῇ ἀρχαῇ τῆς δεισνυχίᾳ τοῦ

The Vision of Isaiah



✠ ἡ σκηνὴ καὶ ἡ κλισίη τῆς· τοῦ χρονοβίου· ἡ φάεινος· καὶ αἱ πλάκες·  
καὶ ἡ ῥάβδος ἐν ᾧ ἡ χρονοβία·



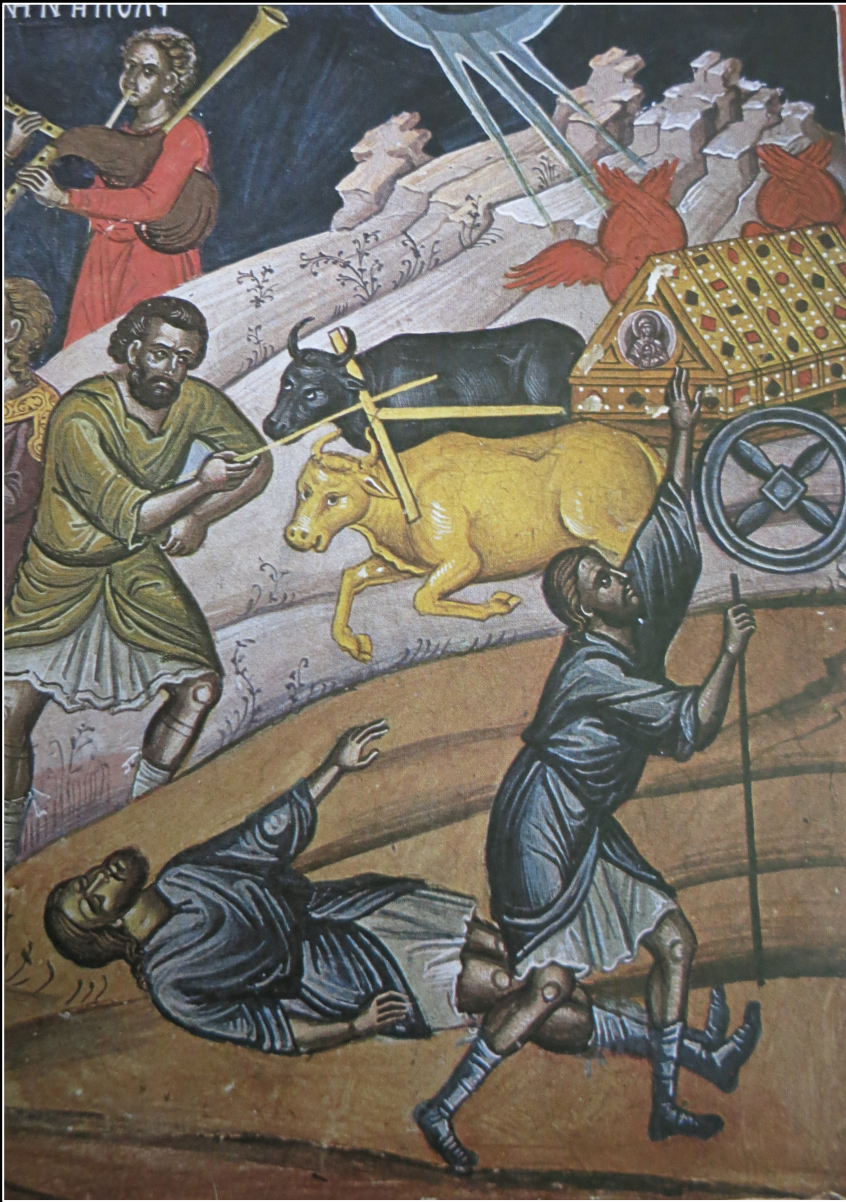
The Tent of Witness





The Ark of the Covenant  
(16<sup>th</sup> c., Theophanes, Stavronikita, Mt Athos)





Uzzah Touching the Ark  
(2 Kings 6:1-7; 1 Chron 13:9-12)  
(16<sup>th</sup> c., Theophanes, Stavronikita,  
Mt Athos)





Late 13<sup>th</sup> c., Church of the Perivleptos, Ohrid







1321, Gračanica, Serbia (Kosovo)









The Couch of Solomon  
(Song 3:7)





The Offering of  
Joachim and Anna





πρὸς τὸν θεόν· ἡ δὲ ἀγγελία  
 τοῦ κυρίου ἐγένετο· καὶ ἔ  
 φησεν· οὕτως εἶπεν·

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΗ  
 ΤΗΣ  
 ΚΑΤΑΛΟΓΟΥ

ἰοε



Σαμ

Ἰσοὶ αὐτῶν ἐμὲ τῶν τοῦ διεσίου· τῶν δὲ τῶν  
 ἰσοὶ λευκαὶ καὶ ὀρεοῦ ποταμῶν, ὡς με  
 γάλω καὶ θαυμασῶ· καὶ τοῦ συγκοινησῶ  
 τῶν χάριτος· οὐκ ἐξ ἑμοῦ οὐκ ἐξ ἑμοῦ τῶν,

The Prayer of Joachim  
 in the Wilderness





The Virgin in the Temple





Annunciation at the Well (παρά τό φρέαρ)





The Visitation (Mary and Elizabeth)



✠ Ἐπὶ τῆς ἐν ἁλὶ καὶ ὕδατι τῶν χν' ἐν θέρει τῇ τῶν δικαίων  
καὶ ἐκ τῆς φωνῆς τῶν δικαίων τῶν χν' :-

μὴ ταῖς ἐφ' ἡμέαις ὅτι πρὸ τῆς ἁγίας ἀδ' αὐτῶν ἐκ  
λαοῦ τῶν ὁσίων σοὶ προεβλήθη· λέγει ἡ :-



Θεὸς πτερ· οἱ οὐδ' ἐκ τῶν ὁσίων ἀνέδραμε  
ἐκ τῶν ὁσίων· οἱ οὐδ' ἐκ τῶν ὁσίων ἀνέδραμε  
Θεὸς πτερ· οἱ οὐδ' ἐκ τῶν ὁσίων ἀνέδραμε

Descent into Hades, Resurrection, Entry into Paradise



✱ ἡ εἰς τὴν ἑορτὴν ἐν γλῶσσῃ τοῦ πᾶντος τοῦ κόσμου :-

ζωοῦσε θεὸς καὶ Πατριάρχαι καὶ ἱερεῖς καὶ ἄγγελοι :-



μ ταύτη γὰρ τὸ πᾶσι καταλλήλου ἀπὸ  
 Κονίθης ἐμολόγηται· ὅτι ταύτη, ὅς ἂν  
 μωμολογῶμεν ἀλάτῃσιν, ὁ τῶν ἱερῶν λό-  
 γος· τὸ μασίλειον Κράτος· ἡ τῶν ἑμῶν

A Feast of the Virgin

*Parisinus graecus* 1208



## Gideon's Fleece (Judges 6:33-40)





Infancy of the Virgin





The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple



The Calling of the Suitors

ὁ δὲ παῖς καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ τὸ ῥημῶς  
 ἐν φωνῇ καὶ τῇ λαλῶν ἐρεῖ·  
 ἰδοὺ ἡ κυρία καὶ ἡ δέσποινίς τῶν  
 ἀγγέλων ἐν τῇ χειρὶ·



ἰδοὺ ἡ κυρία καὶ ἡ δέσποινίς τῶν  
 ἀγγέλων ἐν τῇ χειρὶ·

The Virgin is Doubted





Gabriel is Sent from Heaven





The Annunciation at the Well

παρθένω μεμασσε τείρετο:-



τῶν χαρίτων σου. ὡς τῆς

The Annunciation





The Annunciation: The Heavenly Powers Rejoice





Gabriel Returns to Heaven

ὁ πρὸς ἡλίου ἀναστῆναι καὶ τὴν ἑσπέραν  
πρὸς ὑπὸ τῶν ἡλίου τοῖς χαρι  
τηρίοις προσεπαύει τοῦτο  
λόγοις :-



ἡμεῖς ὡς οἱ κείνοι πρὸς τὰς  
συνήμωον ἡμεῖς καὶ χαίρομεν τοῖς

Mary Journeys to the  
Home of Elizabeth





αὐτὸς ἐγὼ φησὶ μὴ ὡς ἡκούσθην  
ἢ ἐλίσσῃς τὸ μᾶλλον

The Visitation